Effluent treatment plants

3290. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many industries are polluting the river Yamuna inspite of the direction issued by the Central Pollution Control Board to install Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Pollution Control Board has expressed grave apprehensions about the possibility of cleaning the Yamuna river by 2010 when Delhi is scheduled to host the Commonwealth Games;

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(e) the steps proposed to complete the project expeditiously before schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As per the information from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), directions were issued to the State Pollution Control Boards of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi Pollution Control Committee to take effective steps under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to ensure that no effluent from industrial sources along river Yamuna are discharged into it without proper treatment. Pursuant to such directions, a total of 117 grossly polluting industries (industries discharging 100 Kg. or more of Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand per day) were identified in the States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Out of these, 84 units have installed Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs), which are operating satisfactorily, 24 units have been closed. Nine units have installed ETPs but not operating satisfactorily and are facing legal action.

(c) to (e) The CPCB is monitoring the water quality of river Yamuna and their report indicates that the water quality of river does not comply with the desired standards in selected stretches of the river including Delhi.

Government of India has launched Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) for the abatement of pollution of river Yamuna with the assistance of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation in a phased manner. Under the phase-I of YAP launched in April, 1993, 753.25 million litres per day (mld) of sewage treatment capacity was created, of which 30 mld in Delhi. YAP-I was declared closed in February, 2003.

Under the YAP-II, which commenced in December, 2004 at an approved cost of Rs. 624 crore, major portion of the outlay of Rs. 387.17 crore, has been allocated to Delhi. A sewage treatment capacity of 135 mld is to be created under YAP-II in Delhi. Besides, projects for the rehabilitation of 324 mld treatment capacity and rehabilitation/laying of trunk sewers of 30.82 kms. are also envisaged under the YAP-II.

In addition to the YAP, the Government of NCT of Delhi has also taken up large scale pollution abatement works for river Yamuna from its own resources. In this regard, Delhi Jal Board has envisaged the laying of interceptor sewers along major drains, augmentation of sewage treatment plants, interception of small drains, rehabilitation of trunk sewers and construction of additional sewage treatment plants in a time bound manner.